

Applicant: Giuseppe Dal Pra'
Application No.: 10/041,569

REMARKS

The above Amendment amends claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, and 20, cancels claims 3, 5-8, and 19, and adds claim 26. Claims 1, 2, 4, 9-18, and 20-26 are currently pending.

The Office Action objected to claim 12 for repeating the word "to." The Amendment deletes the first occurrence thereof. The Action rejected claims 1, 9, 12, and 19 for using "a bicycle" twice. The second occurrence of bicycle is now "the bicycle."

The Action also noted an issue with "gear" in claims 10 and 13. There is one gear element claimed in claims 10 and 13. A bicycle gear unit, however, sets the context for the claim, but a person of ordinary skill in the art would not confuse such an up and down gear-shifting unit with the claimed gear and rocker arm interaction within the unit.

Finally, the above amendment to claim 1 (and claim 1 only) now shows all of the changes and deletions between its original filing and the above Amendment. The Action correctly noted that the October amendment to claim 1 did not call out all of the necessary interlineations- this is corrected herein. The remaining claims are all amended to show changes between the October 2003 Amendment and this Amendment.

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The Action indicated allowable subject matter in claims 12 and 20-25. The Amendment to claim 12 that removes the second occurrence of "a bicycle" addresses the rejection of claim 12. Claims 13 and 14 now both depend from claim 12 and are also believed allowable. The Action indicated allowable subject matter in claims 20-25 if the claims were rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. Claim 20 is amended to include the limitations of its base claim, claim 19. Claims 21-25 all depend from claim 20 and are thus also believed allowable.

The previous April 2003 Office Action indicated that the subject matter in claims 1, 9, and 12 (and their dependent claims) was allowable if rewritten to include their base claims and any intervening claims. The claims were rewritten in the October Amendment to do this, but removed the reference to "rocker arm" and chose instead "ratchet mechanism." In the above Amendment, "rocker arm" has been reinserted for "ratchet mechanism" in the claims, and thus claims 1, 9, and 12 (and their dependent claims) should be allowable as now written, since they were previously indicated as allowable in the April 2003 Office Action.


New claim 26 claims the rocker arm indicated as allowable, as well as the gear change and brake control unit described in the Specification.

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If the Examiner believes that an interview, telephonically or in person, would advance the prosecution of this case, it is requested that the undersigned be contacted to arrange such an interview.

Respectfully submitted,

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